

GAO

6/22/84

Told Degnan that CIA
not focused on these question.
Suggested DOE (Nat'l.
Weapons Lab) & Lawrence
Livermore.

STAT

REQUEST FOR CIA INFORMATION ON
SOVIET UNION REACTION TO
RECENT STUDIES CONCERNING THE
LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WAR

GAO is conducting a review regarding security planning implications

of new scientific studies on the long-term climatic effects of nuclear war.

The term "nuclear winter" has been coined to depict the catastrophic potential consequences of certain levels of nuclear weapon detonation as reflected in research by Carl Sagan and others.

As part of our effort, we would like to gauge the degree of acceptance of these recent studies by the international scientific community and by nuclear weapon states, particularly the Soviet Union. Recognizing that some Soviet Scientists have reached conclusions similiar to recent American studies, we want to (1) determine the extent to which these studies (Soviet and U.S.) have been publicized throughout the Soviet Union, (2) the degree of Soviet government recognition given them, and (3) what subsequent Soviet government actions have been detected, if any.

To what extent has the CIA assessed any of the above and what are the results?

STAT

6/18/84

This is getting to be a very busy
year!

